

Appleby Archaeology

Notes of the Committee Meeting of the Appleby Archaeology Group held on Thursday September 15th 2016 at The White House, Appleby.

Present

Phyl Rouston	Chairman
Carol Dougherty	
Martin Railton	Research
Martin Joyce	Newsletter Editor
Mike Godfrey	Treasurer
Richard Stevens	Secretary

Apologies

Heather Edwards Membership Secretary

Notes of the last meeting

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a correct record.

1/9/16 Matters arising.

All agreed that the first newsletter edited by David Boote was an excellent production.

2/9/16 Membership

No update on membership, although there was at least one new member, probably as a result of the Dig Appleby Project.

3/9/16 Treasurer's Report

Mike presented the accounts to date, now showing a separate column for Dig Appleby Project payments. The current account stood at £9606.47.

4/9/16 Research

- a) Dig Appleby Project: See minutes of Project Meeting No. 3 dated Thursday September 15th 2016.
- b) Martin R said that he was pursuing the Castle Studies Trust grant for the project at Appleby Castle and was due to meet Erik Matthews on site shortly. The grant application would be supported by Historic England and by Andy Connell, who is on good terms with the owner. The likelihood was that the project would concentrate on the keep, which had not been surveyed properly since the 1950s.
- c) The Heritage Action Zone group was discussed and Martin J said that the application had probably been submitted by now. Phyl had attended the first meeting of the group where the submission document had been discussed. Martin J, as designated representative of Appleby Archaeology, had attended the second meeting, which he thought somewhat disorganised but nevertheless he had signed the application on behalf of the Group.

5/9/16 Correspondence

- a) Richard said that he had received an email from a Colin Bryce of Lazonby asking if he could join the group. Despite a fulsome welcome in reply, Heather had not received an application from him. Richard had also received an email from Gwendy Byas in Silverband which he had unfortunately overlooked. However, this had been picked up by Martin R and the lady and her son were now attending Dig Appleby events.

- b) Phyl had received the A in W newsletter and had circulated it to the committee. Unfortunately, although she had written to the Society regarding Dig Appleby, there was no mention of the project in the newsletter.
- c) Following on from the donation of a level to the group, Phyl said that she had written to Alice Hook, thanking her. However, there had been no mention of the donation in the newsletter as had been minuted in June. Fortunately, Alice had not been sent a copy of the autumn newsletter either, so Martin J undertook to ensure that an acknowledgement would be printed in the winter newsletter and that a copy would be sent to her. **(Martin J)**
- d) Regarding the lady in Brough who had asked the group for help in investigating her ancestry at Fell Dykes, Richard reported that she had been put in touch with Marjorie Champion who had provided a great deal of assistance, including introducing her to people in Appleby who had once lived at the farm.

6/9/16 Programme

Martin R explained that Blaise Vyner had agreed to come and talk to the group in February about the prehistoric origins of the A1. Although he has no detailed knowledge of the archaeological investigations which took place during the recent upgrading, he will try to bring along someone else to explain that aspect. Martin R agreed to invite him. **(Martin R)**

Scribes for the coming series of talks were discussed and the agreed list is as follows:

Caron Newman (October)	Martin J
Marta Alberti (November)	Carol
Richard Newman (December)	Richard
AGM (January)	Richard with contributions from Carol and Martin R
Blaise Vyner (February)	Heather (Heather please confirm)
Adam Parsons (March)	Phyl
Adam Parsons (April)	Phyl.

Carol said that she had attended an event which looked at (and heard) musical instruments through the ages. She suggested that, should the cost be reasonable, we could consider inviting that group next year. The committee agreed and she undertook to contact them. **(Carol)**

7/9/16 Administration Systems

Martin J said that he had updated the asset register. Martin R said that he had added the new items bought with the HLF grant money.

Richard said that he would appreciate it if each person who contacted a speaker kept the events database updated. It should be remembered that the synopsis for the talks should be in place prior to the date of the newsletter before the talk, since this was to be included in the programme details published. **(All)**

Phyl said that she had found difficulty in copying text from the admin system when she was writing to Heart of Eden and Martin J explained the best method.

Martin J said that the wait time for the server had been reduced after (tedious) discussion with the host provider.

8/9/16 AGM

The following was discussed and agreed:

- a) The AGM agenda should show that Phyl is retiring as chair and invite nominations from the membership.
- b) Phyl should chair the whole meeting since the election of officers is one of the last items on the agenda.
- c) There should be a separate agenda item to approve the increase in subscriptions.
- d) Richard and Martin J will arrange a dry run to hand over the responsibility for setting up the AV, date to be arranged. The equipment will have to remain in the Appleby area because Richard could not guarantee that he would be attending all the talks. **(Martin J, Richard)**
- e) The minutes of the last AGM and the Agenda for the 2017 AGM should be with Martin J by mid-November for inclusion in the winter newsletter. **(Richard)**
- f) During the AGM, the membership should be asked for a locally based volunteer to assist with the AV setup, in case Richard is unable to attend. Suggestion – Trish or Mick.

9/9/16 AOB

Phyl agreed to contact those necessary to advise the change of chair once approved by the AGM.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30pm

Time and date of next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 22 December at Northgate, Milburn.